

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Tammy M. Pennington on April 23, 2009.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 21, line 1, the limitation "wherein adding an identifier" has been replaced by --- wherein the adding an identifier ---.

In claim 21, line 6, the limitation "with a host and an index value, wherein a host is identified by an associated index value;" has been replaced by --- with the one of the plurality of hosts and an index value, wherein the one of the plurality of hosts is identified by an associated index value; ---.

In claim 21, line 8, the limitation "the host that issued" has been replaced by --- the one of the plurality of hosts that issued ---.

In claim 22, line 1, the limitation "wherein adding an identifier" has been replaced by --- wherein the adding an identifier ---.

In claim 22, line 7, the limitation "the value" has been replaced by --- a value ---.

In claim 22, line 9, the limitation "the fibre channel port identification address" has been replaced by --- the port identification address ---.

In claim 23, line 2, the limitation "the entries" has been replaced by --- entries ---.

In claim 23, line 4, the limitation "wherein adding an identifier" has been replaced by --- wherein the adding an identifier ---.

In claim 23, line 9, the limitation "the element of the table" has been replaced by - -- the entry of the table ---.

In claim 23, line 11, the limitation "if the value control field byte" has been replaced by --- if a value of the control field byte ---.

In claim 26, line 5, the limitation "plurality of fibre channel hosts" has been replaced by --- plurality of hosts ---.

In claim 26, line 5, the limitation "in a fibre channel" has been replaced by --- in the fibre channel ---.

In claim 26, line 7, the limitation "a fibre channel protocol" has been replaced by - -- the fibre channel protocol ---.

In claim 26, line 8, the limitation "a plurality of hosts" has been replaced by --- the plurality of hosts ---.

In claim 26, line 9, the limitation "a fabric switch" has been replaced by --- the fabric switch ---.

In claim 26, line 15, the limitation "the value" has been replaced by --- a value ---.

In claim 26, line 18, the limitation "a SCSI protocol" has been replaced by --- the SCSI protocol ---.

In claim 26, line 20, the limitation "in control field" has been replaced by --- in the control field ---.

In claim 26, line 25, the limitation "the revised control field byte" has been replaced by --- a revised control field byte ---.

In claim 26, line 26, the limitation "the zero of the identification bit is zero" has been replaced by --- the zero if the identification bit is zero ---.

In claim 28, line 3, the limitation "the iSCSI type Protocol" has been replaced by - -- an iSCSI type protocol ---.

In claim 28, line 7, the limitation "in an iSCSI from one of a plurality of hosts" has been replaced by --- in the iSCSI from one of the plurality of hosts ---.

In claim 28, line 14, the limitation "the entries" has been replaced by --- entries --- .

In claim 28, line 17, the limitation "the element of" has been replaced by --- the entry of ---.

In claim 28, line 19, the limitation "the value of" has been replaced by --- a value of ---.

In claim 28, line 23, the limitation "if the original control field is non-zero," has been replaced by --- if the control field of the original SCSI command is non-zero, ---.

In claim 28, line 29, the limitation "setting the revised control field byte" has been replaced by --- setting a revised control field byte ---.

In claim 28, line 30, the limitation "to the zero" has been replaced by --- to zero ---

.Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:
identifying an unused field in the original command encoded in the second
protocol; and

encoding the identifier of the host that issued the original command in the
unused field, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Regarding claim 25, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:
modifying the control field of the original SCSI command encoded in the SCSI
protocol to include an identifier to make a revised SCSI command, the identifier
associating the one of the plurality of hosts that issued the original SCSI command
encoded in the fibre channel protocol, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Regarding claim 26, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:
encoding the port address of the host that issued the original command in the
control field of the original SCSI command encoded in the SCSI protocol to make a
revised SCSI command having a revised control field, in the specific combination as
recited in the claim.

Regarding claim 27, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:
modifying the control field of the original SCSI command encoded in the SCSI
protocol to include an identifier to make a revised SCSI command, the identifier
associating the one of the plurality of hosts that issued the original SCSI command
encoded in the iSCSI protocol, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Regarding claim 28, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:

encoding the IP index value of the host that issued the original command in the control field of the original SCSI command encoded in the SCSI protocol to make a revised SCSI command having a revised control field, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TOAN D. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-3153. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00AM-4:30PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on 571-272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. D. N./
Examiner, Art Unit 2416

/William Trost/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2416